

# PRESCOTT AREA IRIS SOCIETY



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings to All,

Praise God!!! The rains have finally arrived, temperatures have cooled, and so far, in the Prescott Area, we have dodged the bullet for major wild fires this season. We are half way through our PAIS year and as we look back we can feel blessed that we have had a successful year thus far. Great programs at our general meetings, our Gaze and Graze Garden Tour, a spring filled with outreach education programs, a wonderful Kaleidoscope of Color Spring Exhibit, new historic irises planted at the Sharlot Hall Museum Historic Iris Preservation Gardens, beautiful bloom in the Sculpture Garden this spring, and successful participation in the Sculpture Garden cleanups.

Thank you to all member volunteers for participating to make these events and programs a success. I hear from many people across the state, Region 15 and in AIS saying how wonderful it must be to have such a dedicated membership that actively participates in programs and helps to beautify the community. With all that we have accomplished we have had one drawback in our beautification efforts. For the past year, we have been discussing, meeting and working on a design for a Memorial/Tribute Garden for the Granite Mountain Hot Shots which we had hoped to place in the Sculpture Garden at Yavapai College this year. Unfortunately a critical water issue (lack of sufficient water and pressure) in the garden coupled with a proposed new building addition at the far end of the garden has led us to cancel plans to do the Memorial/Tribute Garden at the YCSG. We will continue to look for a new venue to honor those men. We will now also be limited in what and how much can be planted in the Sculpture Garden based on approval by the Friends of Yavapai College Art Board.

**As we begin the second half of our year, we are looking at all hands on deck events—our annual rhizome sales at Sharlot Hall Museum and Dan's Garden in Yarnell. Please contact Sharon Phelps (928-717-1051, [ssphelps12@gmail.com](mailto:ssphelps12@gmail.com)) to volunteer for this event at Sharlot Hall Museum and Dan Schroeder (602-300-5791, [dan@mccoyetc.com](mailto:dan@mccoyetc.com)) if you can assist with the Yarnell sale. We will not be doing a sale in Chino Valley this year. In conjunction with the sales we have several other sales preparation events: the rhizome dig at the Citizens Cemetery on July 12 and Sculpture Garden dig on July 16. We also have the Marking Party at the Luebkin's on July 19. Let Dennis know which of the digging and marking events you will attend. (623-628-4860, [dlobebin@q.com](mailto:dlobebin@q.com)).**

The sales events are our main source of fund raising. They provide PAIS with the funds to support our activities at the Sculpture Garden, Sharlot Hall Museum, Citizens Cemetery Restoration, our various education programs, the spring show and this coming year, funds needed for the 2015 Fall Trek that PAIS is sponsoring which will occur in October of 2015.

Our Fall Trek committee has been hard at work securing a venue to hold the event (Hassayampa Inn), and obtaining a speaker, Kelly Norris long time editor of the AIS magazine and author of books on iris and iris culture and curator of the Des Moines Botanical Gardens. We will be putting on a western themed program for our visitors from Region 15 (Phoenix, Tucson, and Southern California) and other AIS affiliates.

As we move toward the end of 2014, our elections for new board members are right around the corner in October. This year all of our Board positions are open. All board members, including myself, have

*(Continued on page 2)*

# UPCOMING EVENTS

served two year consecutive terms and are not able to maintain our current positions. I think they call this term limits, what a novel idea!!! As your current President I will move into an advisory position as Past President. It will be time for someone new to take the reins to keep PAIS moving forward. It has been fun and exciting being on the Board for three years and being your president for the past two years. The current Board has been marvelous to work with, each member dedicated to seeing that PAIS is successful at all we do and each one providing special and unique talents. There has been serious discussion but an equal amount of laughter, fun and camaraderie. Please consider taking one of the elected board positions or appointed positions which are available. More information will follow on what Board and appointed positions are being vacated. I want to thank our current Board members for all their hard work over the past two years to make PAIS successful. Please check the calendar on page 5 for dates and times of events and programs for the remainder of the year.

Best Regards to All,  
Dennis Luebkin

## It's \$\$\$ money-making \$\$\$ time and we need YOUR HELP( AGAIN!)

Our “**Annual Rhizome Sale**” is just around the corner and we need ALL of you to dig, clean, help mark (marking party information page 3 ) and

**WORK AT THE RHIZOME SALES EVENT ON JULY 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup>.**

Each year we depend heavily on the income generated from your donated iris rhizomes and all of the volunteer efforts you put into making this sale a success. I have already started a sign-up sheet of those who are volunteering to help at the sale on. If you have already signed up, you do not need to contact me.

**PLEASE CALL 928-717-1051 OR EMAIL [ssphelps12@gmail.com](mailto:ssphelps12@gmail.com) today with the date(s) and time(s) you are available to help at the sale.**

**Saturday, July 26<sup>th</sup>** open to public 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. (but people are always there by 9 a.m. hoping to be first!)

7:30 a.m.-9:00 a.m. Setup (display rhizomes for sale, set up membership, tally, & cashier areas, put up signs, etc.)

9:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. help needed:

- \*Assist customers with choices/information on iris, planting & caring for them-keeping the displays neat and tidy.
- \*Demonstrating how to divide and plant iris (Dan Schroeder has already volunteered to help, anyone else?)
- \*Tallying purchases (iris rhizomes, retail sale items, memberships, etc.)
- \*Cashiers- taking all of their money!
- \*Membership information---being friendly! Making people want to join us!

**Sunday July 27<sup>th</sup>** open to the public from 12 noon–4 p.m. (again people will arrive earlier)

11 a.m. – 4 p.m. same duties as on Saturday except no set up needed.

4 p.m. - ? pack up supplies, unsold rhizomes, MONEY!!!!, tent and tables to storage

**ALSO, NOW THAT YOU KNOW THE NAMES OF THE IRIS RHIZOMES THAT YOU ARE PLANNING TO DONATE FOR OUR SALE, PLEASE SEND ME THEIR NAMES NOW SO I CAN START FINDING AND LAMINATING PICTURES. IT WILL REALLY HELP ME TO GET AN EARLY START.**

~Thanks, Sharon Phelps

# SALES PREP—RHIZOME MARKING PARTY

Marking Party – Saturday, July 19, 8:30 am -

## Bring to the marking party:

- Divided, cleaned and trimmed rhizomes marked as indicated below\*
- Closeup 4" X 6" photo of each variety, if you have one
- Scissors, marking pens will be provided

## Steps to Prepare Rhizomes for the Sales

1. Dig and divide the clump within 3 days of the marking party so rhizomes will still look fresh for the sale. Dig only named varieties. Rhizomes should be healthy showing no signs of disease or insect damage. It is important that the rhizomes be large enough to have the potential of blooming next year.
2. Trim leaves to about 6-8-inches long and into a fan shape (inverted V. See illustration.) Cut roots to 3-4 inches.
3. On the middle leaf print the required information with a black permanent marker (Sharpie). (See instructions below.) Avoid printing on the outside leaf since it is the first to turn brown and fall off.
4. After marking, wash all residual dirt from the rhizomes, roots and leaves. Swishing up and down in a 5-gal bucket of water is recommended. It is important to have clean plants.
5. Some people like to soak the rhizomes for 10 to 15 minutes in a bleach solution of 1/2-cup bleach to 1-gal water. If you do this, wear rubber gloves to protect your skin. Afterwards, it is necessary to rinse the irises well in clear water.
6. Let the rhizomes dry completely outside in the shade.
7. When the rhizomes are dry, store in a single layer in a cool, dry place. If the rhizomes are placed in a paper bag or box, the fans should be placed down and the roots up (up-side down) to avoid trapping moisture between the leaves. Never store rhizomes in plastic bags as the trapped moisture can rot the rhizomes.

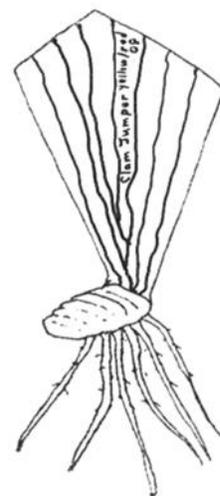
## \*Marking Rhizomes

To help both the buyers and the sale workers, please mark the middle leaf of the iris as follows:

Rub off the white, waxy coating on the leaf with a paper towel or soft cloth before writing on the leaf.

**For all iris, write the name and year the iris was introduced.** For other than tall bearded, write the type: MDB, SDB, IB, BB, MTB, etc.

Indicate space age (SA), reblooming (RE)



## Paper Bag

Put rhizomes of a single variety in a separate box or paper grocery bag, one bag for each variety (no plastic bags). Write the name of the variety on the outside of the paper bag.

## Photos Needed

We display each rhizome with its photo. If you have a 4x6 inch closeup photo of the iris you are donating, please bring it along. Attach it to the outside of the bag writing the variety, date introduced, name of hybridizer and iris type (see instruction above) on the back of the photo.

## Delivering Irises

Make arrangements to deliver rhizomes to Dennis Luebkin before the marking party on July 19 or bring them with you if you are attending the marking party at **10 Cienega Drive**. Map on page 4.

**If you cannot attend the marking party, please clean, trim and mark all irises as indicated above before delivering your iris.**

**We need all hands on deck.**

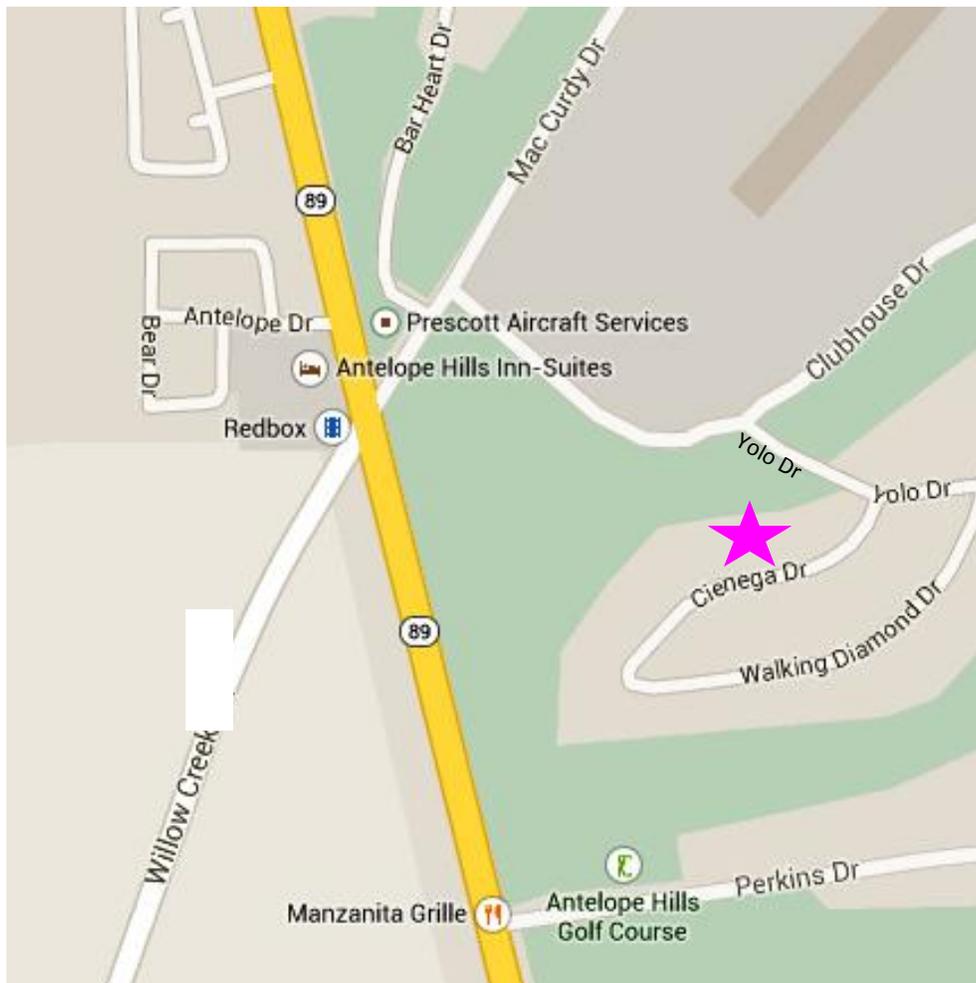
**If you have not signed up to work the marking party, call Dennis, 623-628-4860.**

**A sandwich lunch will be served.**

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**To sign up for the rhizome sales, call Sharon Phelps, 928-717-1051 or Dan Schroeder, 602-300-5791.**

**Luebkin Residence**  
**10 Cienega Drive, Prescott**



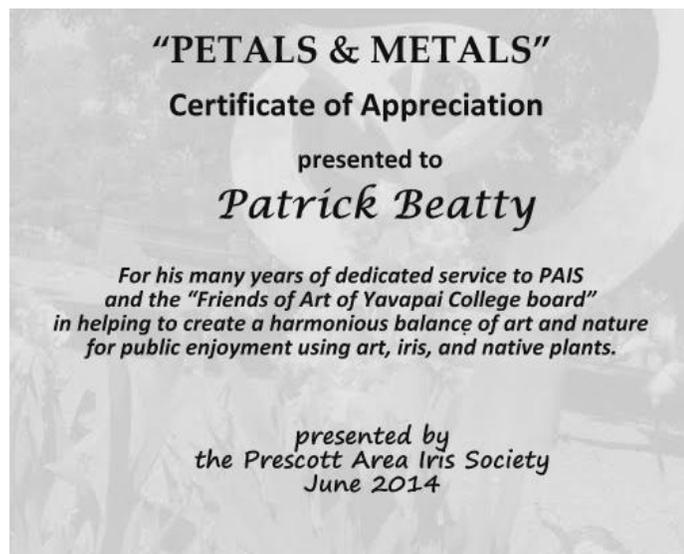
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**SCULPTURE GARDEN HONOREES**

Patrick Beatty and Stan Book have served as liaisons between the Friends of Yavapai College Art Board and the PAIS Board. They have worked to pave the way for adding additional iris to the garden in order to bring public attention to the garden as a place of beauty and relaxation.

At the June 30 board meeting, Patrick and Stan were given a certificate of appreciation as a token of our thanks for their work on behalf of PAIS.

Thanks to Dennis Luebkin, Sharon Phelps, and Judy Book for creating the certificate.



# THINGS TO SEE & DO

## MOONLIGHT MADNESS

The Yavapai County Master Gardeners' sale at the [Prescott Rodeo Grounds](#) is an event you will not want to miss. Plants, garden art, tools and who knows what else. Come early for the best selection. There is usually a long line of folks eager to attend. **Saturday, July 12, 7:30 am to 1:00 pm**

### PAIS EVENTS CALENDAR

July 12-8:30 am	Rhizome Dig—Citizens Cemetery
July 16-8:30 am	Rhizome Dig—Sculpture Garden
July 19-8:30 am	Rhizome Marking Party
July 26-27	Rhizome Sale Sharlot Hall Museum
August 2	Rhizome Sale Dan's Garden, Yarnell
TBA	Potting iris for silent auction
August 16	New Member Training
August 23	Sculpture Garden Revitalization
September 20	Silent Auction/Ice Cream Social
October 1-2	Sculpture Garden Cleanup
November 15	Dealing with Noxious Weeds

#### Potting Silent Auction Iris

We will be receiving the auction iris quite early this year and they will need to be potted so they can start forming roots before our September 20 silent auction. The date of this event will be the week of July 28 which is between our 2 sales events. I know you will have already worked several other iris events in close proximity and this is yet another call for help, but life is full of little surprises.

The potting party will be held at the Book residence. Date and time to be announced as soon as we receive more definite information from the source that is supplying the iris.



Impressionist Ghio '88 TB  
Blooming in Barb McCurry's garden the middle of June. A very late bloomer.

<b>Six month Summary of Income/Expenditures PAIS 2014</b>	
dated June 30, 2014	
Checkbook balance on 1/1/2014 + cash box	\$3,378.87
<b>INCOME</b>	<b>YTD</b>
Reg 15 seed money for 2015 Fall Trek	400.00
Member Dues	578.00
Retail Sales (markers, books, postcards, aprons, etc)	194.50
Rhizome Sales YTD of Reg.15 iris(potted iris sold at "show")	447.00
Rhizome Sales YTD of member iris(potted iris sold at "Show")	843.00
Vendor sales (20% of their sales to PAIS)& refresh.	85.50
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$2,148.00</b>
<b>TOTAL AVAILABLE CASH INCOME TO PAIS 2014</b>	<b>\$5,526.87</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	
AIS (payments to them:affiliation, dues)	\$50.00
Community Service/education:classrm, Sharlot Hall, cemetery	\$428.73
Fall Trek 2015 expenses	\$10.93
Meeting/program expenses-supplies, food, restaurant/speakers	\$72.07
Membership booklets-new item in 2014	\$352.06
newsletter (printing & postage)	\$44.78
Office supplies/Admin. Costs(incl. gen'l postage)	\$408.71
Region 15 sale '13 potted iris(\$returned to Reg 15)	\$221.50
Rhizome sale expenses YTD	\$9.80
Spring Iris Show - non juried (people's choice)	\$929.01
Storage unit rental	\$605.00
Travel expenses for Exec. Board(Reg.15, special Pres. Expenses)	\$700.00
Vendor sales % donated to PAIS	\$68.40
<i>Total iris bucks used to date: \$24</i> <b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$3,900.99</b>
<b>Share Savings Account Balance</b>	<b>\$3,810.07</b>
<b>6-month CD purchased 5/23/2014</b>	<b>\$3,000.00</b>

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Madison Kruse (youth)	Carol Memmer
Juliette LaBonte	Diane Thornburg
Matt Meinholz (youth)	Dayle Wilson
Peter Meinholz (youth)	Eugene Zielinski

## WEB RESOURCES

The *Backyard Gardener* is a newspaper column written by Yavapai County Agent, Jeff Schalau, which covers horticultural topics and relevant local information. Past articles can be accessed here:  
<http://cals.arizona.edu/yavapai/anr/hort/byg/>

# COMMUNITY OUTREACH

At the Sharlot Hall Museum we now have planted forty to fifty varieties of historic iris from 1497 to the mid 1880's. We have also planted about 12 historic irises from the 1920's to 1940 in another area. Steve Whitely is very happy with what we are doing and it is greatly appreciated. We had the Museum Director and Curator of the Museum come by and introduce themselves to us and thank us for the work we are doing there. The irises we planted last year are doing very well. The rhizomes are quite large and the fans are big and healthy. They seem to be happy with their new home. Terry Kyte, Darrell Levi, Steve Whitely and Dennis Luebkin put in new sprinkler systems in an area we will be planting next and added one to the area we did last year. Barbara Kyte, Jean Cole, Carol Hartvigsen, Katy Standhardt, Sharon Luebkin, and Juliette La Bonte planted irises. We have a core group of volunteers and are very grateful for their continued help with this project. The 30 mph winds during the June planting showed us what hardy, diligent volunteers we have. ~Dennis

